

Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 /109 W

----- 098924

R 201306Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3951

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 5377

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFTR, IS, SY

SUBJ: ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

REF: TEL AVIV 4793 (PARA 4), TEL AVIV A-190 OF JULY 6,
1973 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY. LAST COMPREHENSIVE SURVEY BY EMBASSY OF ISRAELI
SETTLEMENTS IN GOLAN HEIGHTS WAS REPORTED IN TEL AVIV REFAIR.
DURING TOUR OF AREA SEPT 19, EMBOFFS OBSERVED NO NEW SETTLE-
MENTS WITH EXCEPTION OF GROUND CLEARING FOR WHAT ISRAELI PRESS
REPORTS WILL BE NEW REGIONAL CENTER. THRUST OF ISRAELI ACTIVITY
ON GOLAN SINCE OCTOBER WAR HAS BEEN CONSOLIDATION OF AND EXPAN-
SION OF EXISTING SETTLEMENTS, AS WELL AS COMPLETION
OF THOSE UNDER CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO LAST OCTOBER. END
SUMMARY.

1. IN ORDER UPDATE INFO ON GOLAN HEIGHTS SETTLEMENTS CONTAINED
TEL AVIV REFAIR (BEING POUCHED DAMASCUS AND JIDDA), EMBOFFS
TOURED AREA SEPT 19. WITH EXCEPTION OF TWO ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS
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LOCATED IN NORTHERN GOLAN HEIGHTS (SNIR AND NEVE ATIV OR RAMAT

SHALOM), EMBOFFS VIEWED ALL SETTLEMENTS REPORTED REFAIR. IN GENERAL, IT APPEARS THAT ISRAELI ACTIVITY ON GOLAN HEIGHTS IS AIMED AT CONSOLIDATING AND EXPANDING EXISTING SETTLEMENTS AS WELL AS COMPLETING THOSE THAT WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION PRIOR TO OCTOBER WAR.

2. EMBOFFS NOTED CONSIDERABLE CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY AT KIBBUTZ MEROM GOLAN, LARGEST KIBBUTZ ON GOLAN HEIGHTS. ADDITIONAL SCHOOL BUILDING, COMMUNITY CENTER, SEVERAL NEW EIGHT-UNIT APARTMENT BUILDINGS AND WHAT APPEARED TO BE BOMB SHELTERS WERE WELL UNDER CONSTRUCTION. IN ADDITION, INITIAL CONSTRUCTION ON WHAT APPEARED TO BE A REFRIGERATION FACILITY WAS UNDERWAY A SHORT DISTANCE FROM MEROM GOLAN. NUMEROUS HEAVY CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES WERE ALSO OBSERVED WORKING ON RESERVOIR LOCATED NORTHEAST OF MEROM GOLAN. APPROXIMATELY ONE KILOMETER NORTH OF MEROM GOLAN, LARGE AREA OF ABOUT 200 DUNAMS WAS BEING CLEARED BY BULLDOZERS. AS NOTED PARA 4 REFTEL, ISRAELI PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT THIS WILL BE SITE OF NEW GOLAN HEIGHTS REGIONAL CENTER. NO CONSTRUCTION WAS YET UNDERWAY AT SITE.

3. ONLY OTHER OBSERVATION WORTH REPORTING WAS MOVE WITHIN NEXT FEW MONTHS OF MOSHAV KEFAR GENAT FROM ITS PRESENT TEMPORARY LOCATION AT OLD SYRIAN VILLAGE OF FIQ TO ITS PERMANENT SITE AT TEL ZAYIT. CONSTRUCTION OF HOUSING WAS WELL UNDERWAY AT TEL ZAYIT AND WE ESTIMATE THAT KEFAR GENAT SETTLERS WILL MOVE THERE WITHIN NEXT 2-3 MONTHS. SETTLEMENT WILL THEN BE KNOWN AS KEFAR GENAT AND NOT TEL ZAYIT AS REPORTED REFAIR. THIS WOULD CHANGE NUMBER OF SETTLEMENTS ON GOLAN FROM 19 TO 18 (NOT COUNTING NEW REGIONAL CENTER).

4. NO OTHER NEW SETTLEMENT ACTIVITY WAS OBSERVED.
VELIOTES

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